

· USSN: 10/079,662
Atty. Docket No.: 10256A
Amdt. dated April 29, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 30, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in this Application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A thermoplastic multi-layer film for forming hermetic seals on packages comprising:
 - (a) a core layer comprising polypropylene and a softening additive having a thickness of 5 microns to 25 microns;
 - (b) a sealant layer comprising a copolymer having a thickness of 5 microns to 10 microns and a Minimum Seal Temperature (MST) equal to or less than 174 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. (previously presented): The film of claim 1, wherein the copolymer of the sealant layer is selected from the group consisting of ethylene-propylene copolymer, ethylene-propylene-butene-1 terpolymer, propylene-butene copolymer, and mixtures thereof.
3. (previously presented): The film of claim 1 further comprising at least one additional layer comprising a material selected from the group consisting of high density polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, and mixtures thereof.
4. (previously presented): The film of claim 1 wherein the softening additive in the core layer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of ethylene-propylene copolymers, terpolymers, thermoplastic hydrocarbons, hydrocarbon resins, and cyclopentadiene hydrocarbon.
5. (previously presented): The film of claim 1 wherein the softening additive in the core layer comprises a hydrocarbon resin.
6. (previously presented): The film of claim 1 wherein the softening additive in the core layer comprises cyclopentadiene hydrocarbon.

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7. (previously presented): The film of claim 1 wherein the softening additive in the core layer comprises from about 2% to about 15% by weight of the core layer.
8. (previously presented): The film of claim 5 wherein the softening additive in the core layer comprises from about 2% to about 15% by weight of the core layer.
9. (previously presented): The film of claim 6 wherein the softening additive in the core layer comprises from about 2% to about 15% by weight of the core layer.
10. (canceled)
11. (original): The film of claim 1, wherein the thickness of the film is from about 17 microns to about 31 microns.
12. (previously presented): The film of claim 3, wherein the thickness of the film is from about 17 microns to about 31 microns and the at least one additional layer thickness is from about 1 micron to about 10 microns.
13. (original): The film of claim 1, wherein the film is biaxially oriented.
14. (original): The film of claim 1, wherein the film is uniaxially oriented.
15. (original): The film of claim 1, wherein the film is hermetically sealable in a machine for making packaging bags with a combination of a fin seal and crimp seals or a combination of a lap seal and crimp seals.
16. (previously presented): The film of claim 3, wherein the at least one additional layer is metallized.

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17. (previously presented): The film of claim 3, wherein the at least one additional layer comprises high density polyethylene.
18. (previously presented): The film of claim 3, wherein the at least one additional layer comprises medium density polyethylene.
19. (previously presented): The film of claim 3 further comprising a coating applied to the at least one additional layer.
20. (currently amended): A thermoplastic multi-layer film for forming hermetic seals on packages comprising:
- (a) a core layer comprising polypropylene and a softening additive wherein the core layer has a first side and a second side;
 - (b) a sealant layer comprising a copolymer wherein the sealant layer has a first side and a second side, wherein the first side of the sealant layer is adjacent to the second side of the core layer and wherein the sealant layer has a Minimum Seal Temperature (MST) equal to or less than 174 degrees Fahrenheit.
21. (previously presented): The film of claim 20 further comprising at least one additional layer comprising a material selected from the group consisting of high density polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, and mixtures thereof wherein the at least one additional layer has a first side and a second side wherein the second side of the at least one additional layer is adjacent to the first side of the core layer.
22. (withdrawn): A method of producing a thermoplastic multi-layer film comprising the steps of:
- (a) coextruding a first layer comprising; a second layer comprising polypropylene and a softening; and a third layer comprising a copolymer;
 - (b) orienting the film in the machine direction at an elevated temperature.

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23. (withdrawn): The method of claim 22 further comprising the step of orienting said film in the transverse direction at an elevated temperature.
24. (withdrawn): The method of claim 22 further comprising the step of corona said third layer.
25. (withdrawn): The method of claim 22 further comprising the step of flame treating said third layer.
26. (withdrawn): The method of claim 22 further comprising the step of plasma treating said third layer.
27. (withdrawn): The method of claim 22 further comprising the step of priming said third layer.
28. (withdrawn): The method of claim 22 wherein the film produced has a MST below 170 degrees Fahrenheit.
29. (currently amended): The film of claim 1 wherein the film has a Minimum Seal Temperature (MST)[MST] below 170 degrees Fahrenheit.